Application No. 10/765,962 Amendment dated August 22, 2006 Reply to Office Action of February 22, 2006

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

The paragraph beginning on page 6, line 19, please make the following changes:

The apparatus according to the invention consists of recyclable synthetic material. It can be shreddered shredded and recycled completely after the amalgam was separated.

The paragraph beginning on page 8, line 18, please make the following changes:

Sewage penetrates then through a perforated plate 20 in which a higher number of holes 21 is arranged scattered over the surface of the perforated plate 20, which holes provide sinkings on the side that faces the flow. The perforated plate 20 is fixed by an attachment (front) 11 and an attachment (rear) 12. A separator 30 is located in the passage chamber 50 which is arranged behind the perforated plate 20. The separator 30 is fixed in the passage chamber 40 by the attachment (rear) and a retaining edge 17. A vent channel 50 51 with a direct connection to the outlet chamber 60 is provided above the separator 30 in the passage chamber 50. This vent channel 51 which extends approximately from the middle of the passage chamber 50 to the outlet chamber 60 allows the gathering of any occurring gasses or inclusions of air which can then be discharged directly through a sewage outlet 61 of the outlet chamber 60.

The paragraph beginning on page 9, line 17, please make the following changes:

A pressure sensor (wireless) 76 located in the pressure chamber 72 is provided with a radio transmitter which transmits the respective pressure data to a receiver 77 that is located outside the housing, and when a certain limit is reached an integrated alarm box 74 gives an acoustic or visual signal indicating that the apparatus is completely loaded with amalgam. In this case the complete apparatus is removed from the dental sewage network and taken to a waste disposal system where due to the given material and construction according to the invention the whole apparatus will be shreddered shredded and the sedimented amalgam separated in an easy manner.

The paragraph beginning on page 10, line 21, please make the following change:

The apparatus cannot be opened any more in this state. The amalgam is removed after the apparatus is destroyed completely, e.g. by shreddering shredding.

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The paragraph beginning on page 10, line 25, please make the following changes:

Fig. 5 shows also by way of example an exploded perspective view of the apparatus according to the invention. After the installation of the perforated plate 20 and the separator 30 the two halves of the housing 10 depicted here are bonded or sealed to each other. An option for opening the apparatus is not provided because the complete apparatus once filled with a maximum amount of amalgam is replaced by a new apparatus, while the filled apparatus will be shreddered shredded, the amalgam separated and all the material recycled.

The paragraph beginning on page 11, line 26, please make the following changes:

Fig. 6 to Fig. 9 depict cross-sectional versions of the separator 30 made of a structured foil 32 and a plain foil 34. Foils 32 and 34 are preferably non-metallic synthetic foils.

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